

GENERAL NOTES.

Mr. Henry Russell has declined the Republican nomination for Mayor of Albany.

The Rhode Island Republican State Committee organized on Wednesday, William A. Pirce being chosen Chairman.

The Rochester *Express* sagely suggests that when one starts on a journey he should always carry two things—a pocket full of cash and no bundles.

It is stated by authority that Mayor Means, of Cincinnati, will not be a candidate for Congress in either district. Mayor Means is a Democrat, and was elected to his present office as a "Reformer."

When the teacher asked what was the feminine of tailor, a small boy on a front seat in a public school in Brockton, Mass., promptly exclaimed "Dress-maker," and was greatly delighted that he was able to get in the answer first.

Postmaster Adreon, of Baltimore, has reduced from \$1,000 to \$800 the salary of a mail clerk for inexcusable carelessness in missending a package of letters. His previous excellent record prevented his dismissal from the service.

The Concordia (La.) *Eagle* of March 25 says: "The time has come when we must call for a united sympathy and aid from the whole country; true, the Government is acting nobly in providing rations for the sufferers from overflow; the appropriation so far has fallen short of the immediate demand, and our Congressmen are still asking for larger appropriations. In 1878 the North was not wanting in her efforts to help the yellow fever sufferers. To-day it is the laborer, the tiller of the soil, the bone and sinew of the country, who are asking for aid. The levees all along the river are full of these refugees, some with their little all in bundles on their heads seeking shelter wherever they can find a dry spot.

A Boston correspondent of the Chicago *Advances* writes: "Rhode Island is the only one of the New-England States that does not observe a day of fast. The suggestion is made every year that the annual fast come upon Good Friday. The old Puritans have hitherto objected to this on the ground that their day was a high-day, and they could not consistently come under the banner of the 'Church' calendar. It is well known that our State fast has come to be a 'high-day,' in a very bad sense. And now the pious churchmen turn upon the suggestion to blend the two days into one, and puncture it with the keenest sarcasm, by saying their Good Friday is a sacred day to the Church and they do not wish to see it desecrated and destroyed by the unbridled license and revolvries of the State annual fast."

In a communication to the Indianapolis *Journal*, Mr. Daniel Kirkwood, of Bloomington, makes this suggestion: "All of the major planets exterior to Venus are now known to have satellites—a fact sufficient to justify a careful search in the case of our neighboring orb. According to Prof. Pickering, the diameter of the larger satellite of Mars is only seven miles. If Venus has an attendant of a corresponding size, it may well have escaped detection at former transits. But one more opportunity will occur for a search of this kind before the twenty-first century. It is hoped, therefore, that during the transit on the 6th of December next the sun's disk may be watched with the best telescopes in order to detect a satellite if any really exist. A spherical body 100 miles in diameter would subtend an angle of only one second at the distance of Venus in inferior conjunction. Its detection on the sun would, therefore, require an instrument of high power. The transit will last between six and seven hours."